

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1/ A method of manufacturing a composite insulator constituted by a rod surrounded by an insulating coating and provided at its two ends with two metal end fittings 5 respectively, the method consisting in the following steps:

- fixing two respective metal interfaces to the two ends of the rod, the metal end fittings of the insulator subsequently being fixed to the interfaces; and

10 - putting the coating into place around the rod and around the metal interfaces while leaving an end portion of each metal interface uncovered by the coating so as to enable the metal end fittings to be fixed thereto subsequently.

15

2/ A method according to claim 1, in which the coating is put into place by injection molding.

20 3/ A method according to claim 1, in which each metal interface is fixed to an end of the rod by a swaging technique.

25 4/ A method according to claim 1, in which each metal end fitting is fixed to a metal interface by a swaging technique with the help of a worksite press.

30 5/ A composite insulator for medium voltage distribution manufactured by a method according to claim 1, in which each metal interface is a tube.

35

6/ A composite insulator according to claim 5, in which the tube has an internal transverse wall providing a sealed separation between the rod and a metal end fitting.

35

7/ An insulator according to claim 6, in which the internal wall is a metal web.

8/ An insulator according to claim 6, in which the internal wall is a separate fitting.